



North Korean Human Rights Advocacy: Making the Most of Scarce Data

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SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

In-sung Kim: Graduated from Kyung Hee University in Korea with an M.A. in International Relations in 2010. Since then, he has worked at the North Korea Human Rights Database Center.

Sang-hun Kim: Founded the North Korea Human Rights Database Center (NKDB) in 2003 and is currently the Chairman of its Board of Directors. Mr. Kim's career started in 1957 as a commercial/cultural assistant at the British Embassy in Seoul. After nearly 10 years of service to the Embassy, Mr. Kim spent the next 10 years as an area officer for CARE-Korea before beginning a long and distinguished career with the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP). With the WFP, Mr. Kim served in offices in South Korea, Thailand, Sudan, Lesotho and Guyana, before retiring in 1994. Mr. Kim's career has demonstrated a passion for defending the rights of some of Korea's most marginalized populations. From 1995-1997, he worked on issues related to rights for migrant workers in Korea and since 1996, when he founded the Citizen's Alliance to Help Political Prisoners in North Korea, he has dedicated his efforts to helping North Korean refugees. His service was recognized in 2003, when he was named as one of Time Magazine's "Asian Heroes."

Dr. Jae H. Ku: Director of the U.S.-Korea Institute (USKI) at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). Before joining USKI, he was the Director of the Human Rights in North Korea Project at Freedom House. He has taught at the Johns Hopkins University SAIS, Brown University, Yonsei University (Seoul, Korea), and Sookmyung Women's University (Seoul, Korea). His research interests are: Inter-Korean Relations, U.S.-Korea relations, Democracy in Asia, and Human Rights in North Korea. He has been a recipient of both Fulbright and Freeman fellowships and has researched at various think tanks, including the Center for Strategic and International Studies (Washington, DC), the Korean Institute of International Studies, (Seoul, Korea), and the Institute for International Relations (Hanoi, Vietnam). Dr. Ku holds a Ph.D. from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, M.Sc. from the London School of Economics, and A.B. from Harvard University. He speaks Korean and has a working knowledge of Vietnamese. He was the editor of *Charge and Challenge on the Korean Peninsula*, Vol. 5 (CSIS, 1996) and his writings have appeared in the *Washington Quarterly*, *World and I*, *Scripps Howard News*, *The Chosun Ilbo*, and *The Korea Herald*.

Ja-eun Lee: Graduated from Ajou University in Korea with a B.A. in Political Science in 2007. Since then she has worked at the North Korea Human Rights Database Center.

Paula Schriefer: Has over 17 years of experience in democracy and human rights promotion. She currently oversees Freedom House's advocacy, outreach and communications activities, including foreign policy advocacy, press relations, and coordination with international organizations. From 2001 to 2006 she served as Director of Programs, overseeing Freedom House's nearly two dozen major program initiatives and 13 overseas offices established to support independent media, open and transparent governance, civil society development, justice sector reform, and the defense of human rights. She joined Freedom House in 1997 as part of the merger between Freedom House and the National Forum Foundation (NFF), bringing much of the programming portfolio to Freedom House. Before joining NFF in 1994, she worked for the

National Endowment for Democracy. She graduated Summa Cum Laude with a B.A. degree in Russian Area Studies from the University of Denver and completed coursework for an M.A. in Russian and Eastern European Studies at George Washington University. Ms. Schriefer speaks Russian and some German and French.